

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

# AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A secure flash memory device for a computer,  
the flash memory device comprising:

- 5       a connection port for electrically connecting the flash  
memory device to the computer;  
a microcontroller electrically connected to the  
connection port;  
a flash memory electrically connected to the  
10       microcontroller; and  
a pre-installed security program for limiting access to  
the flash memory, a portion of the security program  
being stored in the microcontroller, the security  
program being executed by the computer when the  
15       microcontroller receives flash memory access requests  
from the connection port;  
wherein when the security program is executed, a pass code  
stored in the computer is compared with a predetermined code  
stored in the flash memory device in a form understandable  
20       by the security program to enable the microcontroller to  
prevent data from being exchanged between the connection port  
and the flash memory when the pass code does not equal the  
predetermined code and to enable the microcontroller to allow  
data to be exchanged between the connection port and the flash  
25       memory when the pass code equals the predetermined code.

2. (cancelled)

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

3. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the flash memory device is divided into a plurality of partitions and the security program determines how information can be exchanged between the connection port and each partition.

5

4. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the predetermined code is capable of being set by a user.

5. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the predetermined code is encrypted.

10

6. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the predetermined code is stored in the microcontroller.

7. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the predetermined code is stored in the flash memory.

15

8. (currently amended) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the entire security program is stored in the microcontroller.

20

9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein a remaining portion of the security program is stored in the flash memory ~~and another portion of the security program is stored in the microcontroller.~~

25

11. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

security program issues commands to a graphical user interface (GUI) of the computer.

12. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the  
5 connection port is a universal serial bus (USB) port.

13. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is an integrated drive electronics (IDE) port.

10 14. (original) The flash memory device of claim 1 wherein the security program is written in hypertext markup language (HTML).

15 15. (previously presented) A method for providing security to a flash memory device, the flash memory device comprising a flash memory, a connection port, a microcontroller coupling the flash memory and the connection port, and a security program, the method comprising:

20 pre-installing at least a portion of the security program into the microcontroller;  
executing the security program with a computer to which the connection port is temporality connected;  
accepting a pass code through the security program; and  
25 comparing the entered pass code with a predetermined pass code.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising:  
preventing access to the flash memory device if the pass

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

code does not equal the predetermined pass code.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising:  
allowing access to the flash memory device if the pass  
5 code equals the predetermined pass code.

18. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the security program  
is written in hypertext markup language (HTML).

10 19. (currently amended) A method for providing security to a flash  
memory device, the flash memory device comprising a flash  
memory, a connection port, and a microcontroller coupling the  
flash memory and the connection port, the method comprising:  
installing a portion of a security program written in  
15 hypertext markup language (HTML) into the  
microcontroller;  
executing the security program with a computer to which  
the connection port is temporally connected;  
accepting a pass code through the security program;  
20 comparing the entered pass code with a predetermined pass  
code; and  
controlling access to the flash memory device based on  
the comparison.

25 20. (new) A secure flash memory device for a computer, the flash  
memory device comprising:  
a connection port for electrically connecting the flash  
memory device to the computer;

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

a microcontroller electrically connected to the  
connection port;  
a predetermined code stored in the microcontroller;  
a flash memory electrically connected to the  
5 microcontroller; and  
a pre-installed security program for limiting access to  
the flash memory, the security program being executed  
by the computer when the microcontroller receives  
flash memory access requests from the connection port;  
10 wherein when the security program is executed, a pass code  
stored in the computer is compared with the predetermined code  
to enable the microcontroller to prevent data from being  
exchanged between the connection port and the flash memory  
when the pass code does not equal the predetermined code and  
15 to enable the microcontroller to allow data to be exchanged  
between the connection port and the flash memory when the pass  
code equals the predetermined code.

21. (new) The flash memory device of claim 20 wherein the  
20 predetermined code is capable of being set by a user.

22. (new) The flash memory device of claim 20 wherein the  
predetermined code is encrypted.

25 23. (new) The flash memory device of claim 20 wherein a portion  
of the security program is stored in the microcontroller.

24. (new) The flash memory device of claim 20 wherein a portion

Appl. No. 10/064,414  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Reply to Office action of October 06, 2004

of the security program is stored in the flash memory.